

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~Greeting card making apparatus for assisting in~~
the production of a greeting card by duplication apparatus
comprising a layout template that defines a layout area,
5 said layout area accommodating at least one object that is
to be contained in said greeting card, said greeting card
making apparatus being convertible between a layout mode
and a duplication mode, the layout area being observable
by a user during the layout mode so that the user may
10 observe an arrangement of the at least one object within
said layout area, the layout template being reproducible
by said duplication apparatus so that said duplication
apparatus produces a copy of the arrangement of the at
least one object within said layout area defined by said
15 layout template.

2. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout template defines a position in said
layout area for said at least one object and an
orientation in said layout area for said at least one
5 object.

3. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout area includes a recessed area.

4. ~~The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,~~
wherein said layout area includes an opening.

5. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
further comprising a backing member, said backing member
forming a portion of said layout area.

6. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout template defines at least one opening

~~therein, said at least one opening exposing a portion of~~
the at least one object contained within said layout area.

5 7. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
further comprising a transparent cover member operatively
associated with said layout template so that said
transparent cover member can be moved between a first
position and a second position, said transparent cover
member exposing said layout area when said transparent
cover member is in the first position, said transparent
cover member covering said layout area when said
transparent cover member is in the second position, said
10 transparent cover member also securing the at least one
object contained within said layout area when said
transparent cover member is in the second position.

5 8. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 7,
further comprising a backing member operatively associated
with said layout template, and wherein said backing member
and said transparent cover member secure the at least one
object contained within said layout area when said
transparent cover member is in the second position and
said layout template is positioned between said backing
member and said transparent cover member.

9. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
further comprising a sticker, said sticker removably
adhering to said greeting card making apparatus or to a
duplicating bed of said duplication apparatus.

10. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout template comprises cardboard.

11. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,

~~wherein said layout template comprises a plastic material.~~

12. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout area is defined by said layout
template such that the arrangement of said at least one
object within said layout area is to be contained in a
5 front outer portion of said greeting card.

13. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout area is defined by said layout
template such that the arrangement of said at least one
object within said layout area is to be contained in a
5 front inner portion of said greeting card.

14. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout area is defined by said layout
template such that the arrangement of said at least one
object within said layout area is to be contained in a
5 back inner portion of said greeting card.

15. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 1,
wherein said layout area is defined by said layout
template such that the arrangement of said at least one
object within said layout area is to be contained in a
5 back outer portion of said greeting card.

16. Greeting card making apparatus for assisting in
the production of a greeting card by duplication
apparatus, comprising:

5 a backing member that defines a layout area;
said layout area accommodating at least one object
that is to be contained in said greeting card; and
an aperture grille operatively associated with
said backing member so that said aperture grille can

10 ~~be moved between a first position and a second~~
position, said aperture grille including at least one
opening therein, said aperture grille exposing said
layout area when said aperture grille is in the first
position, said aperture grille covering a portion of
15 said layout area when said aperture grille is in the
second position, the at least one opening in said
aperture grille exposing a portion of the at least
one object contained within said layout area when
said aperture grille is in the second position.

17. The greeting card making apparatus of claim 16,
wherein said aperture grille secures the at least one
object contained within said layout area when said
aperture grille is in the second position.

18. Greeting card making apparatus for assisting in
the production of a greeting card by duplication
apparatus, comprising:

5 greeting card making means for defining object
positioning and orientation means for positioning and
orienting at least one object that is to be contained
in said greeting card, said greeting card making
means being convertible between a layout mode and a
10 duplication mode, said object positioning and
orientation means being observable by a user during
the layout mode so that the user may observe an
arrangement of the at least one object within said
object positioning and orientation means, the
15 greeting card making means being reproducible by said
duplication apparatus so that said duplication
apparatus produces a copy of the arrangement of the
at least one object within said object positioning
and orientation means defined by said greeting card

~~making means.~~

19. ~~A method for making a greeting card, comprising the steps of:~~

providing a greeting card making apparatus that defines a layout area;

5 positioning at least one object within said layout area defined by said greeting card making apparatus;

observing an arrangement of the at least one object within said layout area;

10 positioning said greeting card making apparatus so that said layout area is adjacent a duplicating bed of a duplication apparatus; and

15 operating said duplication apparatus to duplicate the arrangement of the at least one object within said layout area and to produce a copy of the arrangement of the at least one object within said layout area.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of folding said copy of the arrangement of the at least one object within said layout area.